

HOUSE BILL 613

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2lr0640

By: **Delegates Rosenberg, Mitchell, Branch, George, Ivey, Kaiser, Luedtke, Ross, and Walker Walker, Cardin, Howard, A. Miller, and Stukes**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2012

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2012

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Nancy Grasmick Teacher Scholars**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Nancy Grasmick Teacher ~~Grant~~ Award in the
4 Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program; ~~requiring the Office of~~
5 ~~Student Financial Assistance to assist in the repayment of certain higher~~
6 ~~education loans owed by certain individuals who receive certain degrees from~~
7 ~~certain institutions of higher education in the State or out of the State;~~
8 requiring the Office to assist in the repayment of the amount of any higher
9 education loan owed by certain public school teachers in the State who teach
10 certain subjects or teach in certain schools in Maryland for a certain amount of
11 time; providing that a recipient of a Nancy Grasmick Teacher ~~Grant~~ Award
12 shall be known as a Nancy Grasmick Teacher Scholar; requiring that certain
13 regulations establishing priority for participation in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan
14 Assistance Repayment Program include, for teacher applicants only, an
15 individual who qualifies for a Nancy Grasmick Teacher ~~Grant~~ Award and meets
16 other specified qualifications; prohibiting the Office from approving more than a
17 certain percentage of awards for teacher applicants to Nancy Grasmick Teacher
18 Scholars; and generally relating to the creation of the Nancy Grasmick Teacher
19 ~~Grant~~ Award in the Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

21 Article – Education

22 Section 18–1501, 18–1504, and 18–1505

23 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

2 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
3 Article – Education
4 Section 18–1502 and 18–1503
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
8 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

9 **Article – Education**

10 18–1501.

11 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

12 (b) (1) “Eligible field of employment” means employment in the State by
13 an organization, institution, association, society, or corporation that is exempt from
14 taxation under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

15 (2) “Eligible field of employment” includes employment by the State or
16 any local government in the State, but does not include being employed as a judicial
17 clerk in any court.

18 (c) “Higher education loan” means any loan for undergraduate or graduate
19 study that is obtained for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses from:

20 (1) A college or university, government, or commercial source; or

21 (2) An organization, institution, association, society, or corporation
22 that is exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) or (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of
23 1986.

24 (d) “Program” means the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment
25 Program.

26 18–1502.

27 (a) There is a program of loan assistance repayment known as the Janet L.
28 Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program in the State.

29 (b) The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall assist in the repayment
30 of the amount of any higher education loan owed by an individual who:

31 (1) (i) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree
32 from:

1 1. A college or university in the State of Maryland; ~~for~~

2 2. A school of law; or

3 ~~3. FOR A RECIPIENT OF THE NANCY GRASMICK~~
 4 ~~TEACHER GRANT, A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER~~
 5 ~~EDUCATION IN THE STATE OR OUT OF THE STATE THAT POSSESSES A~~
 6 ~~CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL FROM THE APPROPRIATE HIGHER EDUCATION~~
 7 ~~AUTHORITY IN THAT STATE; OR~~

8 (ii) Receives a Resident Teacher Certificate (RTC) from the
 9 Department after completing an alternative teaching preparation program approved
 10 by the State Superintendent;

11 (2) Obtains eligible employment;

12 (3) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total
 13 income levels established by the Office, including any additional sources of income;
 14 and

15 (4) Satisfies any other criteria established by the Office.

16 (C) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS
 17 SECTION, THE OFFICE SHALL ASSIST IN THE REPAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF
 18 ANY HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN OWED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE
 19 STATE WHO:

20 (1) HAS TAUGHT IN MARYLAND FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS:

21 (I) IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATH
 22 SUBJECTS; OR

23 (II) IN A SCHOOL IN WHICH AT LEAST 75% OF THE
 24 STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN THE FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM IN
 25 THE STATE FOR 2 YEARS; AND

26 (2) HAS RECEIVED THE HIGHEST PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
 27 RATING FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE
 28 TEACHER TAUGHT (THE GRANT TO BE KNOWN AS THE NANCY GRASMICK
 29 TEACHER ~~GRANT~~ AWARD).

30 (D) A RECIPIENT OF A NANCY GRASMICK TEACHER ~~GRANT~~ AWARD
 31 SHALL BE KNOWN AS A NANCY GRASMICK TEACHER SCHOLAR.

1 (6) An annual review of the eligibility of each individual participating
2 in the Program.

3 **(B) THE OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MAY NOT**
4 **APPROVE MORE THAN 50% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS FOR TEACHER**
5 **APPLICANTS TO NANCY GRASMICK TEACHER SCHOLARS.**

6 ~~(B)~~ **(C)** The Office of Student Financial Assistance shall adopt any other
7 regulations necessary to implement this subtitle.

8 18–1504.

9 (a) Funds for the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program
10 described in subsection (b)(2) of this section shall be allocated by the Commission to an
11 individual who:

12 (1) Has received a graduate degree from a school of law; and

13 (2) Has submitted an application for the Janet L. Hoffman Loan
14 Assistance Repayment Program that the Commission disapproved due to insufficient
15 funds.

16 (b) Funds for the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program
17 shall:

18 (1) Be provided on an annual basis in the State budget; and

19 (2) Include money paid to the Program from the fee charged for a
20 special admission of an out-of-state attorney under § 7–202(e) of the Courts Article.

21 (c) If a federal matching grant loan program furnishes professional services
22 in an eligible field of employment to low-income or underserved residents of the State,
23 the Office may apply not more than 50 percent of the funds provided in the State
24 budget for the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to the State's
25 participation in the federal program.

26 18–1505.

27 Subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the Office of Student
28 Financial Assistance shall report to the General Assembly by January 1 of each year
29 on the implementation of the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 July 1, 2012.